

December, 1999



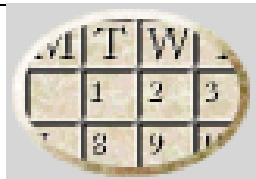
Wastewater News

Internet Address: <http://www.epa.gov/owm>

Working towards Clean Water



Clean Water . . . a better environment
Office of Wastewater Management



UPCOMING MEETINGS, CONFERENCES AND TRAINING

What is happening in December?

Go to the OW Calendar of Events site by clicking here
<<http://yosemite.epa.gov/water/news.nsf/owcalendar?OpenView&Grid=4&Date=1999-07-05>>

Upcoming Events

Urban Water Resource Tools

OWM, in cooperation with Region 5 and the Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission, is co-sponsoring a National Conference on "Tools for Urban Water Resource Management and Protection" in Chicago, February 7 - 10, 2000. The conference will provide participants with practical, applied information on the most effective tools and technology for meeting NPDES permit requirements, and will emphasize the Phase II program's six minimum measures. For more information, see <http://www.nipc.cog.il.us/water_tools_2000.htm> or contact John Kosco on (202) 260-6385.

Satellite Videoconference on the Phase II Storm Water Rule

APWA, through an EPA grant, will present a nationwide satellite videoconference outlining the requirements of the storm water phase II regulations, and what public works agencies must do to comply, on February 15, 2000. For downlink locations and registration information, see <<http://www.apwa.net/education/workshops/stormwater.htm>>.

Storm Water Pilot Training Course

OWM is holding a pilot workshop December 7-8 on the NPDES Storm Water Regulation, both Phase I and the new Phase II rules. The pilot course will be held in Virginia Beach, VA in cooperation with the Navy. Additional courses will be held in 2000. For more information, see <<http://www.epa.gov/owm/sw/training/course.htm>> or contact John Kosco on (202) 260-6385.

NPDES Permit Writers' Training Course

The objective of the NPDES Permit Writers' Training Course is to provide the basic regulatory framework and technical considerations that support the development of wastewater discharge permits as required under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Program. The course is designed for new permit writers highlighting the process of developing, issuing and complying with NPDES permits. The format of the course is a combination of lecture, case examples, and practical exercises that are geared to acquaint participants with the tools and resources available to assist them in writing NPDES permits. The training course lasts 5 days and there is no fee for attending. Due to popularity of this course, no space is currently available the rest of the calendar year. New courses will be posted as soon as new dates and locations

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are confirmed. For more information please visit our website: <<http://www.epa.gov/owm/npdesup.htm>>. For more information, contact Jennifer Duckworth on (202) 260-1389.

National Environmental Training Center for Small Communities (NETCSC)

Free Rate-setting Training Sessions for Small Community Local Officials to Be Offered December 2 and 3 in West Va.

NETCSC trainer Sandra Fallon will present a course December 2 in Morgantown on how small community local officials can develop appropriate rates for their wastewater services. She will repeat the course December 3 in Wheeling. Using computer software developed by the Environmental Finance Center at the University of Maryland, participants can put numbers relating to their facilities and communities into the system and leave with specific information needed to set rates. Cosponsors for the course include the Environmental Finance Center at the University of Maryland, the West Virginia Rural Water Association, and the West Virginia Municipal League. For more information contact Betty B. Ford 202-260-8510.

National Drought Policy Commission

The Interagency Contacts Group (ICG) of the National Drought Policy Commission (NDPC) met on November 3-4, 15-16, and 18-19, 1999 to discuss the draft final report to be presented to the Commission for consideration at their business meeting in Los Angeles on December 2, 1999. The ICG also discussed a proposed agenda for the Los Angeles meeting. A public hearing will also be held on December 1, 1999. For more information, contact John Flowers on 202-260-7288 or visit the NDPC website at <www.fsa.usda.gov/drought/>.

REGULATIONS AT WORK

Direct Final Rule for EPA's Clean Water Act Awards

A final draft of a direct final rule for EPA's Clean Water Act awards is currently being reviewed by partners in EPA's Headquarters and Regions. Comments should be provided to the Municipal Assistance Branch by Friday, January 7, 2000. The rule will formalize eligibility requirements, nominations process, application provisions and selection criteria for the Office of Wastewater Management's National Wastewater Management Excellence Awards programs. The rule will include awards for Operations and Maintenance, Beneficial Use of Biosolids, Pretreatment, Storm Water Management and Combined Sewer Overflow Controls. For more information, contact Maria Campbell at (202) 260-5815.

OTHER INFORMATION

Baseline Information on Small Community Wastewater and Financial Assistance Needs

On October 12, 1999, OWM widely distributed four fact sheets that describe the (1) wastewater treatment and disposal needs of small communities (10,000 or fewer people), and (2) the level of financial assistance provided to them. Data from the 1990 Census of Population and Housing, the 1996 EPA Needs Survey, the USDA/RUS Facilities Tracking System, and the CW State Revolving Fund are presented by state. Copies can be obtained from the Office of Water's Resource Center at (202) 260-7786. The fact sheets will be available via the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/OWM/smallc.htm>, under the "small communities publications" button. The data show that though progress is being made, the wastewater treatment and financial needs of communities of with fewer than 10,000 people are still great. For more information, contact Sylvia Bell at (202) 260-7255.

Tribal Experiences Clean Water Indian Set-Aside Grant Program

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OWM has posted on its website <<http://www.epa.gov/OWM/indian/>> five examples where Indian tribes and Alaska Native Villages (ANVs) overcame many obstacles to obtain basic wastewater treatment and disposal facilities for their residents. OWM's Clean Water Indian Set-Aside Grant Program, as authorized under section 518(c) of the Clean Water Act, provides grant funds (up to 100 percent of eligible project costs). All federally-recognized tribes and ANVs are eligible to receive funding. The case histories describe how a tribe (1) went from hand-dug pit privies to a collection system and lagoon, (2) dealt with an EPA issued Compliance Order, (3) addressed an outbreak of hepatitis due to unsafe disposal practices, (4) hired an Indian-owned engineering firm to correct a serious, ongoing wastewater facility discharge problem, and (5) eliminated a honey bucket haul system. For more information, contact Sylvia Bell at (202) 260-7255.

END OF REPORT